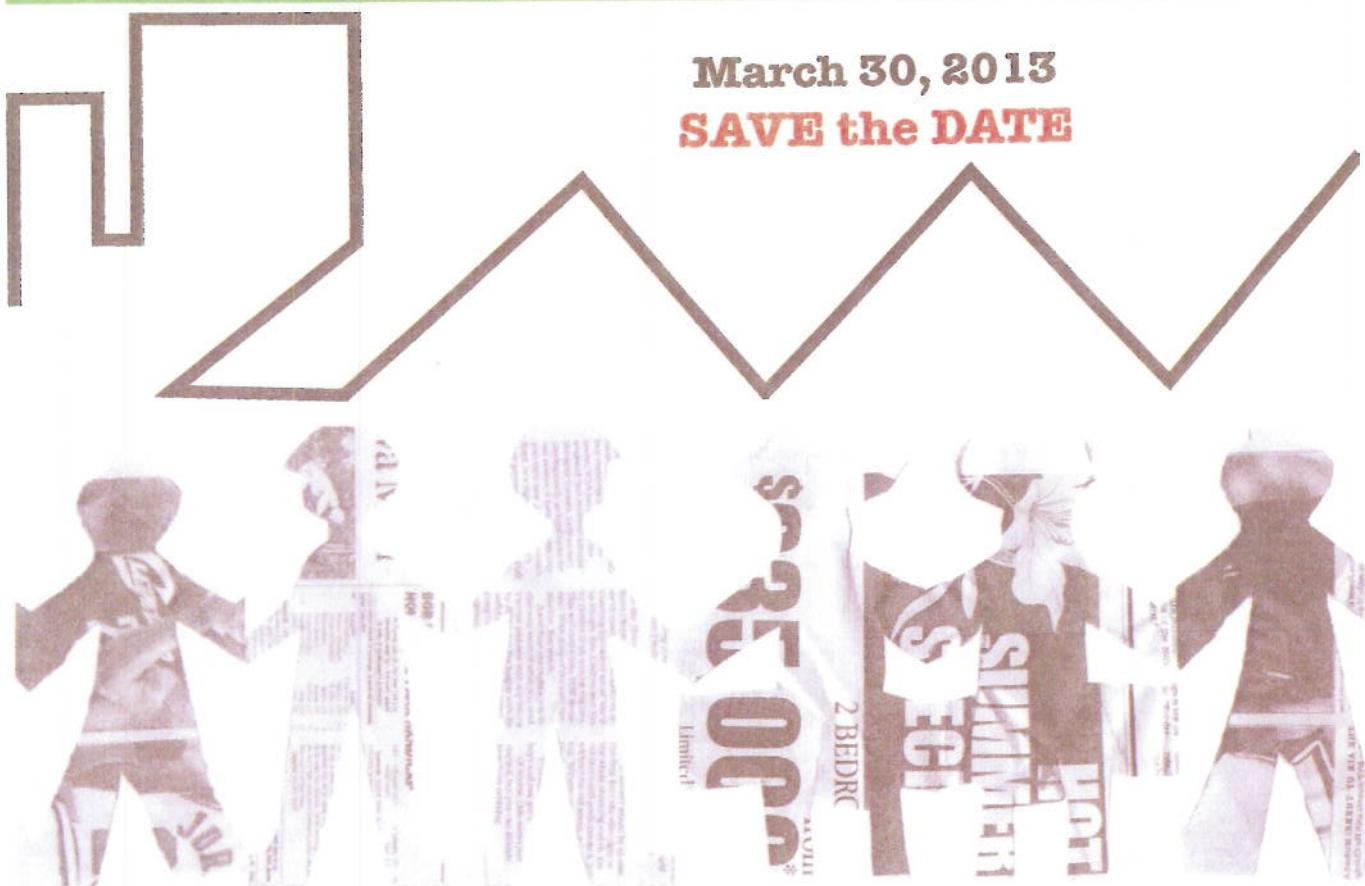


Envisioning a Healthy FREE L.A. Community Solutions Not Jail Expansion

March 30, 2013
SAVE the DATE



**Saturday
March 30, 2013
2 - 7pm**

**Chuco's Justice Center
1137 E. Redondo Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90302**

(On the border between South Central L.A.
and Inglewood one light west
of Florence and Crenshaw)

This event is being held in
collaboration with Architects/Planners
for Social Responsibility

The LA Sheriff's Department proposes to build 1,156 new jail beds for women at the cost of \$194 million—a so-called "Rehabilitative Village." They propose to contract with HOK, Inc for \$3.4 million dollars to prepare concept drawings and performance criteria for the site.

At the same time, the Sheriff wants to spend \$933. million to replace the much-troubled Men's Central Jail with a maximum security facility for 3456 individuals despite recent investigations exposing habitual deputy violence against inmates inside L.A. County jails—the largest county jail system in the world.

This free workshop will allow community members to express their vision for how L.A. County could use that money, over one billion dollars, to better meet the needs of individuals being sent to jail—especially low-income women and women of color who would occupy the proposed "Women's Village".

The workshop will give participants an opportunity to imagine what sort of spaces and programs would make communities safer, healthier and happier. Architects and designers will help to make models and drawings of alternative structures that would better match community needs.

More Info: contact diana@curbprisonspending.org, 213.864.8931 or masutton2@earthlink.net
Californians United for a Responsible Budget - Critical Resistance - No More Jails LA - Youth Justice Coalition

www.curbprisonspending.org



Californians United for a Responsible Budget

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Sybil Brand Commission Meeting 3/20/13

Issues:

Outdated Studies and Jail Proposal

- All studies are severely outdated and do not include the new population of realigned individuals.
- On March 15, 2013 the Board of Supervisors letter, in response to the jail plan, stated that the plan "proposes to have a total of 1,348 beds dedicated for female inmates (1,156 beds plus 192 medical/mental health beds). This proposal provides no justification or rationale for the total beds proposed given that there are in excess of 2,400 female inmates currently in custody. "

Realigned Women

- The Austin Report also projected the amount of women that would be locked up in 2013, which resulted in 1,057 pretrial, 365 county sentenced, and 1,130 AB 109. This results in an estimated total of 2,552 women incarcerated in the Los Angeles County jail system.¹
- In regards to those women that have been realigned, some who have children and have been moved from the state to the county level would have been eligible for the Alternative Custody Program. This is a program that reunifies women with their children under community supervision under a certain criteria. This is not a program that exists at the county level and needs some modification.

Alternatives to Incarceration Programs for Women

- There are several programs that support and serve women who are incarcerated, but there is no concrete number that states how many women are being diverted to these programs and/or reconnected with their children. On March 12, 2013, the Probation Department referred to a program for female re-entry through Health Right 360, but provided no estimate of how many women are being served by this program.

Violence and Misconduct

- The issues of violence within the Century Regional Detention Facility have not been investigated despite several commissions on jail violence. The last known study on women in 2009 study states, "Nonetheless, we are concerned that a culture of verbal abusiveness toward inmates may exist at the staff level and that complaints lodged by inmates – especially personnel complaints- may be ignored or even expose complainants to staff retaliation. While the extent to which such problems exist is an open question, we remain troubled by the pervasiveness of inmate allegations of deputy disrespect and complaint mishandling. We strongly encourage the Department to

¹ Austin, James. P.22



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Next Step:

- Implementation of a survey that analyzes
 - o Demographic breakdown of the population of women
 - o Environment women are living in
 - o Programming given to women
 - o Reentry needs of women
- Follow Up meeting with Sheriff Baca and pertinent individuals to discuss alternatives to incarceration
- Visitation of CRDF